

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 2-10 and 13-21 remain in the application. Claims 1, 11, and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2-4, 6, 10, 13-16, 18, and 20 have been amended.


2. Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 4, 7-9, 14, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 4 to include all the features of claim 1 and claim 14 to include all of the features of claims 11 and 12. Claim dependencies have been amended accordingly. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-10, 13-19, and 21 are in condition for allowance.

3. Claim 20 has been amended to recite subject matter similar to the combination of claims 1 and 4. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 is in condition for allowance.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph V. Gambardell
Reg. No. 44,695

25 October 2006
Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited transmitted electronically, on the date indicated below, addressed to the Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 10-25-2006

Signature: Jessica R. Lee
Person Making Deposit